

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Korea/China

SUBJECT Evacuation Measures of the Retreating North
Koreans

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1. In mid-October 1950, HO Ka-i (高可一), deputy chairman of the North Korean Labor Party, directed the evacuation from Pyongyang of high officials of the North Korean government, the North Korean Labor Party, and various Communist social organizations. The principal government and party officials were sent to Hanchun (130-20, 42-50), which became the temporary capital; their dependents were placed in villages in the vicinity. Other centers to which officials were evacuated were Kyonghung (130-30, 42-35), Hanyung (130-15, 42-55), Unggi (130-25, 42-25), Hoeryong (129-45, 42-25), Namyangdong (129-52, 42-57) (sic), and Aojidong (130-25, 42-30).
2. When the government began to move north, many inhabitants of North Korea were forced to cross over into Manchuria with it. More than 20,000 families from Kilchu (129-20, 40-58), Hoeryong, Chongsong (129-45, 42-45), Kyongwon (130-10, 42-50), and Kyonghung (130-30, 42-35) Counties were reportedly forced to enter Manchuria at the end of September, leaving their already harvested fall crops. The evacuation of the North Korean population was encouraged by the frequent UN air raids on Chongjin (129-49, 41-46) and surrounding areas, which the North Korean authorities used as propaganda subjects, claiming that the UN air forces would not cease bombing until the last person remaining in North Korea had been killed.
3. Persons who were reluctant to leave their homes, as many North Koreans were, the government induced to emigrate by paying them 5,000 North Korean won each. Some of these evacuees were moved to Mutanchiang and Chiamussu in Manchuria. It was conjectured among local residents that the government was willing to pay them to move in order to secure manpower for future military activities and also to convince the Chinese Communist government that many people willingly accompanied their retreating officials.

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